



# Informational Notes for EMDs and Local Officials

Bulletin #37 – Oct 2, 2003

## Missouri HS Assessment & Strategy Program Completed by Nov. 15

The State of Missouri must conduct a statewide Homeland Security Assessment and Strategy Program for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Office of Domestic Preparedness (ODP). The statewide assessment must be completed by November 15 and the statewide strategy must be submitted to ODP by December 30, 2003. The assessment and strategy are required for the state and all inclusive jurisdictions to be eligible for any future DHS grants, beginning with FY2004. There is an extremely short turn around on this project.

To meet this requirement, the State of Missouri has hired a contractor to conduct the statewide assessment and strategy development. Tetra Tech, Inc will be working with jurisdictions throughout the state on this process. They will conduct eight regional kickoff meetings the week of October 7. Tetra Tech will coordinate assessment activities; collect data, compile and enter the information into the ODP's assessment program, evaluate the data; and prepare the Missouri Homeland Security Strategic Plan. The assessment portion of the program is expected to be completed by October 31, 2003 and the State Strategy by December 15, 2003.

If you have any questions please contact Tom Mohr, SEMA Terrorism Program Manager. 573-526-9245, email: [tmohr@sema.state.mo.us](mailto:tmohr@sema.state.mo.us).

## Terrorist Chemical Device Information for Public Venues

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) recently released a terrorist Chemical Device bulletin for Physical Security Officers and Facility Managers. The information is meant to advise owners of public venues of one possible type of improvised chemical device threat. SEMA disseminated this information to all Missouri Homeland Security Response Teams. While DHS possesses no information indicating specific targeting of the U.S. infrastructure, such targeting would be consistent with Al-Quad's stated objective to disrupt and undermine vital economic interests in this country.

Terrorist interest in toxic chemical materials and delivery methods has been growing and probably will increase in the future. Reasons for this interest include the relative ease with which some of these materials can be acquired and produced, the potential for large numbers of casualties and psychological impact on a population, disruption at the scene of the event and to related infrastructure.

DHS encourages facility managers to report information concerning suspicious or criminal activity to local law enforcement, local FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force or the Homeland Security Operations Center (HSOC). The HSOC may be contacted at: Phone: (202) 282-8101.

## Missouri's Uhlmann Chairs NEMA Mitigation Committee

The National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) named Missouri's Jerry Uhlmann as Chair of the Mitigation Committee. This committee focuses on: Natural & Technological Hazards Risk Reduction, Risk Analysis & Mapping, Codes and Standards, Pre-Disaster Mitigation, Flood Mitigation Assistance, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, and Mitigation Planning. Missouri's State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO) will chair the SHMO subcommittee.

## **CUSEC Expands to Include Alabama in Core Membership**

The Central United States Earthquake Consortium (CUSEC) is composed of seven core states that would suffer damages from an earthquake along the New Madrid Seismic Zone. The seven states are: Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky, Mississippi, Illinois and Indiana. At a CUSEC board meeting, the bylaws were changed to read earthquake damages in the Central United States thus opening the door for the State of Alabama to become a full member rather than an associate member. The nine associate members states are: Ohio, Nebraska, Iowa, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia.

## **Twenty Missouri Fire Departments Receive Grants**

FEMA announced that thirteen Missouri Fire Departments received Fire Grants in Rounds 14, 15 and 16 announcements. Those departments receiving grants for Fire Operations & Firefighter Safety were: Armstrong FPD (\$16,380); Central Jackson FPD (\$239,132), Cuba FD (\$99,000), Deer Creek FPD (\$79,731); Duke Rural FD (\$14,400), Florissant Valley FPD (\$17,100), Halltown VFR (\$62,730), LaGrange CFA (\$42,966), Lazy Acres VFD (\$36,225), Mountain Grove VFD (\$95,400), Norborne FPD (\$76,981); Poplar Bluff FD (\$202,219); Pumpkin Center Volunteer FD (\$18,225); Salisbury FD (\$41,850); Springfield FD (\$51,147); Tiff City VFD (\$40,500), and Wentzville FPD (\$111,942).

Departments receiving grants for Firefighting Vehicles were: Adrian Rural FD (\$45,000), and Cassville Rural FD (\$172,125). Departments receiving grants for Fire Prevention were: North Kansas City FD (\$11,700).

## **Conferees Agree on FY 2004 Homeland Security Funding**

On Wednesday, September 17, the conference committee for H.R. 2555, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), agreed to provide \$29.4 billion for DHS in fiscal year (FY) 2004, an increase of \$535.8 million above FY 2003. The bill provides \$4.2 billion for the DHS Office of Domestic Preparedness (ODP), with funds provided for emergency management and firefighters. Specifically funding levels in the bill include the following:

- \* \$1.7 billion for ODP basic formula grants for states;
- \* \$500 million for state and local law enforcement terrorism prevention grants;
- \* \$725 million for high-threat, high-density urban areas;
- \* \$750 million for firefighter grants;
- \* \$180 million for Emergency Management Performance Grants; and
- \* \$60 million for Urban Search and Rescue.

The conference committee also agreed to provide \$9 billion for border protection; \$5.2 billion for the Transportation Security Administration and the Federal Air Marshal Program; \$839 million for protecting the nation's critical infrastructure and key assets; and \$1.8 billion for disaster relief.

Note: this reestablishes our EMPG funding. Since it has it's own identity in the budget, hopefully this will be sustained in future years.

**Note: The SEMA Fall Newsletter is on the SEMA Homepage, the hard copy will be mailed soon.**